

CHENERY HOUSE

DRAWER 12

SPRINGFIELD

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Illinois Springfield

Chenery House

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

William Dodd Chenery

401 WEST LAWRENCE AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

DRAMATIZER AND PRODUCER
OF
MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH
AS GRAND OPERA

Sunday, May 10, 1931.

JOSEPH ---- LIFE OF JOSEPH
XERXES ---- STORY OF QUEEN ESTHER
EGYPTA ---- LIFE OF MOSES

Hon. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Warren:

Answering the request from your office of April 20, 1931, as to the present interest to me of the bulletin, Lincoln Lore, which you have so generously been sending, I wish to say that it has now and always will have surpassing interest to me. As I think I once wrote you - Mr. Lincoln's last stopping place in Springfield was in my father and grand father's hotel, the Chenery House, from which he departed for the railroad station on the morning of the memorable "Farewell Address". My home is filled with the furniture used in the hotel by the Lincoln family and I have interesting papers pertaining to Lincoln.

The continuance of receipt by me of your publication will be most gratefully acknowledged.

Among other documents that I have is one of the original programs of the funeral cortege of Mr. Lincoln. This copy was held by my Mother in her hand on the morning of the funeral, 10 o'clock, Thursday, May 4, 1865, as she stood on the balcony of the hotel watching the passing of the cortege. I found it among her papers after her death on October 14, 1923, and if I have not sent you a photostatic copy of it I will do so upon your request. I can also furnish a photograph of the Chenery House, the last stopping place in Springfield of Mr. Lincoln and his family, of the Chenery family of that period (seven children and their parents) who were his last hosts, and I also have a photograph of a letter written in 1855 by Mr. Lincoln to W.F. Boggs, of Kingston, Mo., in answer to inquiry made by Mr. Boggs regarding an event of the Black Hawk war. It is a most remarkable illustration of Mr. Lincoln's astounding memory and of his desire to give accurate information. I can supply a photostatic copy if you have not already one of them. Prints of the hotel and the family would cost me, at the photographers, about \$1.00 each, and the photostats could be obtained for about 15 cents each. There would be no additional charge beyond the actual cost of printing them, not even any postage charge.

Very sincerely yours

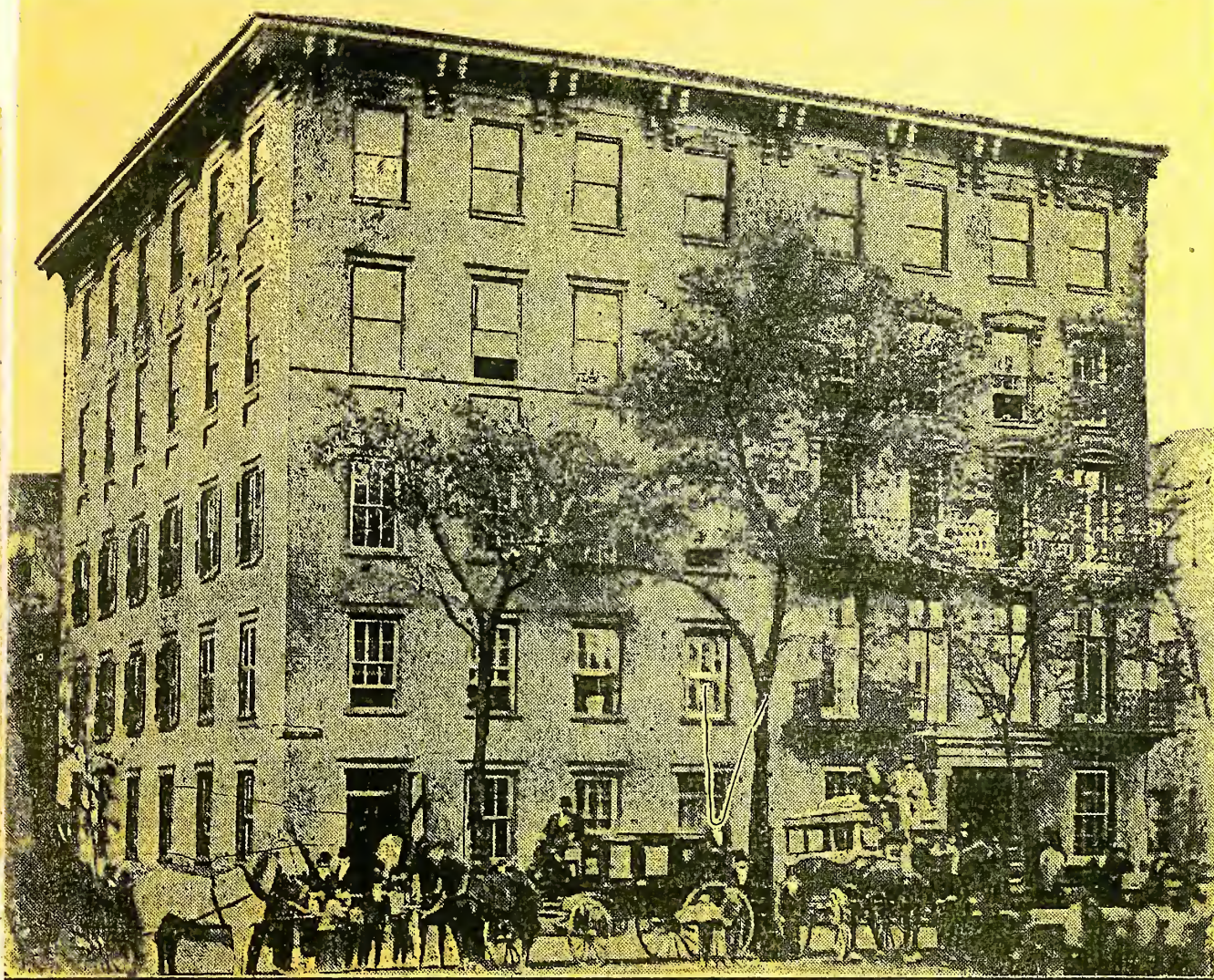
P.S.

The Lincoln Tomb, here in Springfield, will be rededicated Wed. June 17, 1931, beginning about 2 p.m., with President Hoover and the governors of seven states present. It will be a memorable occasion and I trust that you may arrange to come.

W.D.C.

William Dodd Chenery

Chenery House, Lincoln's Last Springfield Residence



Last Springfield Host to Lincoln

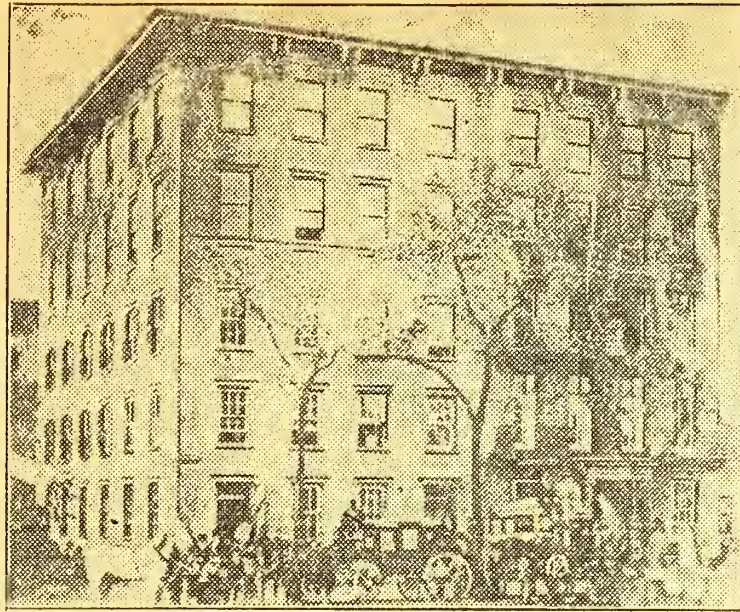


The last hosts in Springfield of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 were the family of William Dodd Chenery, proprietor of the Chenery House, at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets, to which Mr. Lincoln removed his family from his homestead on February 6, 1861. Seated, left to right, Ann Jane, eldest daughter; William Dodd Chenery, I; Abigail Partridge Chenery. Standing: Cyrus Edward, John William (father of

William D., II), Susan Abigail, Thadeus, Mary Frances, James Edward.

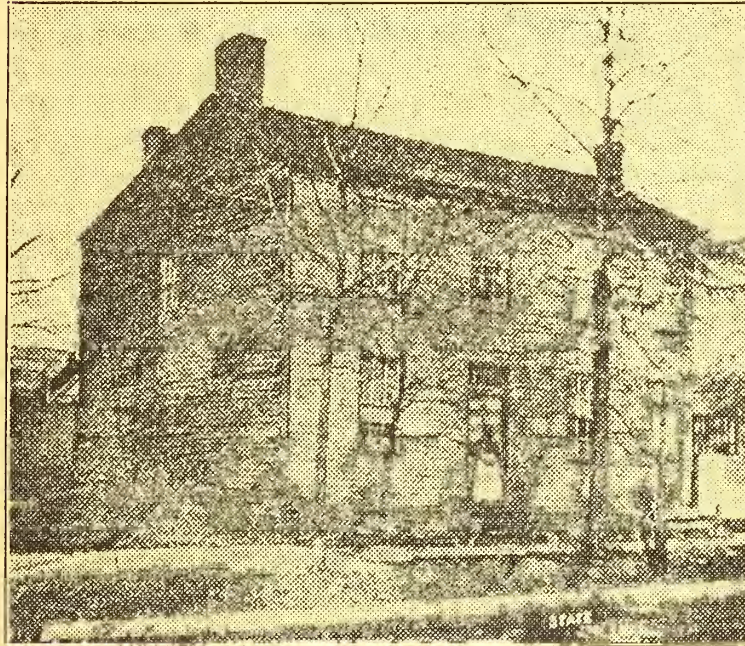
The family had operated the American House, southeast corner Sixth and Adams street, from 1852 to 1855. It had been Mr. Lincoln's habit to spend many evenings during legislative sessions chatting in the office of both hotels with legislature members, and his acquaintance with the proprietors was more than merely casual. (See Lighter Vein column today.)

See Lighter Vein column today 2/12/37



FAMOUS ANTE-BELLUM HOSTELRY.

The Chenery house, the last stopping place in Springfield of Abraham Lincoln.



THE GLOBE TAVERN.

This historic hostelry was erected in 1835 by Wharton Ransdell on Adams street between Third and Fourth streets. It was once the home of Abraham Lincoln.

